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Introduced by Assembly Members Yamada and John A. Pérez

August 22, 2011

House Resolution No. 21—Relative to September 11, 2001.

WHEREAS, At 8:46 a.m. on September 11th of this year, the nation will commemorate the 10th anniversary of America's darkest day and in doing so, will honor the heroes and the casualties of the most shocking, barbaric, and catastrophic act of inhumanity in modern history; and

WHEREAS, This 10th anniversary gathering will serve to recall the uniting of the world's cultures and nationalities in condemnation of terrorism, and the great outpouring of charity and compassion that followed in the aftermath of the attacks on the World Trade Center, demonstrating once again, the victory of the human spirit over depravity, savagery, and cowardice; and

WHEREAS, Ten years ago, on September 11, 2001, terrorists hijacked four separate flights, carrying 266 people, all bound for California; and

WHEREAS, All four flights crashed with no survivors, and almost 3,000 men, women, and children who were citizens of more than 70 countries were killed at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and in Shanksville, Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, These acts of terrorism caused the destruction of the two prominent World Trade Center towers, nearby buildings, a portion of the Pentagon building, and four airline jets, and the loss of innocent American lives and countless injuries to many others; and HR 21 -2-

WHEREAS, Californians join the American public in pouring out their hearts in grief and sympathy for the family and friends of those who perished or suffered injuries in the attacks; and

WHEREAS, The Assembly salutes and remembers the hundreds of heroic men and women of the police and fire departments, the paramedics, and the medical personnel who put their personal safety at risk and lost their lives or were seriously injured at the disaster sites in their courageous efforts to protect and serve their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, The Assembly recognizes the support and acts of service performed by Californians, including sending letters, signing banners, donating blood, contributing money, offering food, providing supplies, and grieving as a diverse, yet united, nation; and

WHEREAS, We are eternally grateful to the valiant men and women of our Armed Forces, those who have fallen, those who have been wounded, and those who continue to combat terrorism in Iraq, Afghanistan, and around the world; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting at this point in history for all Americans to remind themselves that the United States is a nation of healing, hope, and resilience; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, That the Assembly acknowledges the 10th Anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001; and be it further

Resolved, That the Assembly continues to recognize September 11 of each year as a Day of Remembrance and Service, and calls upon all Californians to participate in appropriate observances to remember those who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, as a symbol of our love for them, their families, and our own communities, cities, and nation; and be it further

Resolved, That the Assembly encourages freedom-loving Californians to honor the memory of those who died by observing September 11 with an act of service for fellow Californians, whether that act is donating blood, visiting a nursing or veterans' home, volunteering at a children's hospital, mentoring neighborhood students, donating clothes to a homeless shelter, or some other act of giving; and be it further

Resolved, That the Assembly acknowledges that California, firm in purpose and direct in its response, will thereby help its neighbors

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- in time of need, work together for peace, and safeguard our legacy
- of freedom; and be it further 2
- Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution. 3